

TWENTY-NINTH
Annual - -
- - Report


ON THE
SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE
FOLESHILL RURAL DISTRICT,

FOR THE
Year ending December, 1904.

BY
**JOHN ORTON, M.D., B.Ch., B'ham,
D.P.H., Edin.,**

*Fellow of the Incorporated Society of Medical Officers
of Health, and of the Royal Institute of Public
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TO THE

FOLESHILL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN.

As prescribed by the Local Government Board, I submit my Second Annual Report—the twenty-ninth which has been presented—on the health and conditions of your district during the past year, and also the vital statistics for the same period.

The population to the middle of the year has been estimated to be 18,216.

The Birth Rate is 35·0 Average for previous 10 years, 35·99 per 1,000. This Birth Rate is considerably lower than the one last year, when I called attention to the fact that it was the highest rate we had had since annexation of Great Heath and Stoke districts. The average number of persons is estimated as remaining the same, viz., 4·5.

In the Foleshill sub-district, comprising the Parishes of Bedworth, Exhall, Foleshill, and Keresley, there were 573 Births; in 1903, the number was 569; and in 1902, 558.

In the Walsgrave-upon-Sowe sub-district, comprising the Parishes of Anstey, Binley, Shilton, Stoke, Walsgrave, Willenhall, Withybrook, and Wyken, there were 65 Births; whilst in 1903, there were 93; and in 1902, 88. So that the diminished Birth rate for the year is due to the comparatively small number of Births in the rural districts.

The Death rate for the year is 17·3. The average for the previous 10 years is 17·17. This rate is much higher than last year, when it was abnormally low, being only 14·2; and 17·3, although a high figure, approximates much more nearly to the average of the district, which is 17·17 for the last 10 years.

The Death rate from Phthisis remains the same as last year, and is ·8 per 1,000.

The Infant Mortality Death rate calculated per 1,000 Births registered, is 158·3; in 1903, it was 134·4; and in 1902, 159·4. This is much higher than last year, mainly owing to Diarrhoea, there being very little in 1903.

Premature Birth still contributes a large number, viz., 13.

The Zymotic Disease death rate is 3·0

The Deaths from the Seven principal Zymotic Diseases which contribute to this are as follows:—

		1903.
Small-pox	0	1
Scarlet Fever	2	0
Diphtheria	8	8
Enteric Fever	3	0
Measles	1	8
Whooping Cough	9	2
Diarrhœa	32	7
	—	—
	55	26

The marked difference in the two years is due to the very different summer, for whereas the summer of 1903 was a cold, wet season, during the past year we experienced a considerable amount of very hot weather, and the climatic conditions are mainly responsible for the disparity above.

The number of Notified Diseases during the past year is 223 ; in 1903, there were 200 ; and in 1902, 250. The list is as follows:—

Small-pox	6
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup }	70
Erysipelas	25
Scarlet Fever	21
Enteric Fever	22
Continued Fever	4
Chicken Pox	75

Small Pox.

This disease again visited our district in the early part of the year, and occurred in two Parishes, viz., Exhall and Bedworth—two cases in the first-named Parish, and four in the latter. All were to be traced to the adjoining district of Arley, where an Epidemic was present. The first case was that of a man who lived at the Corley extremity of Exhall, he having contracted the disease from some one of his fellow-workmen at Arley. Our second case was his daughter, a girl of 6, who developed the disease in spite of being vaccinated the day after her father was notified as being a suspicious case, her case proving only a mild one, however. The father was removed to the temporary Small-pox Hospital at Exhall, upon March 26 ; the daughter, upon April 5.

The first Bedworth case was notified upon April 11, and removed the same day ; he was a hawker, who had undoubtedly become infected at one of the houses at Arley where a case existed. The remaining three cases were all contacts of the first Bedworth one.

The prompt removal of all the cases, and the disinfection of all Bedding, clothing, and Premises, together with the protection afforded by re-vaccination, which was again had recourse to, prevented any spread of the disease ; and we may, I think, fairly congratulate ourselves upon this satisfactory

termination to what I feared would mean an extensive outbreak in Bedworth.

As in the previous year, the Medical Practitioners were requested to notify me by telegraph, and all cases were seen before admittance to Hospital. I also visited several cases which were deemed suspicious, and investigated the circumstances attending one death, which, it was feared, might have been from Small pox. We again had posters, similar to those in use last year, circulated, urgently requesting the public to assist the Sanitary Authority in preventing the spread of the disease.

Scarlet Fever.

Twenty-one cases were reported. There were 28 in 1903, 89 in 1902, and 80 in 1901. Five cases were in Bedworth, one in Exhall, fourteen in Foleshill, and one in Walsgrave. Of these cases, 19 were removed to the Foleshill Infectious Hospital, Church Lane. The cases were many of them of a severe type, and two deaths occurred at the Hospital.

As shown above, the total number of cases is less than we have had of late years, the disease not appearing in epidemic form; and although in some quarters, there has been agitation in the last year or two against the system of removal of Scarlet Fever Patients to Infectious Hospital, I cannot but think that the prompt removal of our sporadic cases has prevented the spread of the disease.

Measles

Is a disease which visits a district about every 3 or 4 years, and as we had a severe visitation in 1903, as might be expected we had no epidemic in 1904, but only occasional cases, and only one death is attributed to Measles, whilst in 1903 there were eight.

Erysipelas.

Twenty-five cases were reported, and one proved fatal—that of a young child a few months old.

Epidemic Diarrhoea.

From this disease, during the year, we had 32 deaths, the largest number we have experienced for some years, as in 1903 the number was seven only, 1902 two, 1901 fourteen, and 1900 ten.

Of the 32 deaths, fourteen occurred in children under one year of age, and this particular cause of death is the main factor in our high rate of infantile mortality. As I pointed out last year, in my Annual report, the absence of any long periods of hot dry weather, in 1902 and 1903, accounted for the small amount of Epidemic Diarrhoea in those years; but the last summer being so very different, the heat being at times very great, an increased epidemic of the disease was to be expected.

Chicken Pox.

Notification of this disease was in force until March, and was again, by resolution of your Council, made so, as from May

18 to May 17 1905. As, however, in July, Small-Pox had entirely disappeared from the district, and Chicken-Pox was only occurring amongst well vaccinated children, at my suggestion the resolution was rescinded, and notification ceased upon July 27.

Seventy-five cases were notified during the periods mentioned, but I cannot say that this year we derived any practical benefit from such notification. Fifty four of the notifications received were in Bedworth parish, twelve in Foleshill, and eight in Keresley.

Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.

Seventy cases of this disease were reported during the year, twenty-five from Bedworth, nine from Exhall, twenty-nine from Foleshill, five from Walsgrave-upon-Sowe, and two from Willenhall. The amount of this disease, I am sorry to say, seems still to increase, as it is greater than in 1903, when the number of cases was forty-five, which, I remarked, was a much higher one than was desirable ; and in 1902 there were forty-three cases. Eight deaths were recorded out of the 70 cases, a better result than in 1903, when we had seven deaths from the 45.

This disease is the one of all Zymotic diseases which gives me the greatest anxiety, and it seems impossible to account for it. We have made (Mr. Windass and myself) careful examination of all premises from which the disease has been reported, and made inquiries into all possible means of conveyance of the disease, with practically no result ; in few cases has it been propagated from person to person. I am of the opinion that the disease, like Influenza, is an air-borne one, to a great extent ; and although, as I reported last year, surface pollution of the ground, from slops, etc., being thrown around dwellings, may give rise to much of it, still there remain many cases that we cannot assign any cause to, and in March of last year your Council very wisely adopted my suggestion of supplying anti-diphtheritic serum to any Medical Practitioner in attendance upon a case of Diphtheria or Membranous Croup in our district, on condition that a full report was rendered by him at the termination of the illness, on a form supplied by us, as follows :—

FOLESHILL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.
ANTI-DIPHTHERITIC SERUM REPORT.

Date Supplied.....
Date of Use.....
Name of Patient..... Age.....
Address.....
Duration of illness before Serum was used.....
Result of illness.....
Remarks (if any ; type of case, Tonsillar, Pharyngeal, &c.)

Date
Medical Attendant.

These forms are issued with the serum, which is kept stocked at the Infectious Hospital, and is procured from the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine, London.

We commenced stocking the serum in May, and, since then, twenty-five doses have been applied for, and only two deaths have been recorded after its use, and I believe that a more extended use will still further tend to diminish the mortality, which, I have pointed out above, shews a marked improvement upon the previous year.

At the end of August, the occurrence of two cases in an overcrowded house at Willenhall caused an urgent representation to be made to us to remove the cases to Hospital. This, under the circumstances, as we had another disease being treated in the Hospital, we were unable to do, and the prompt isolation of the cases at home, use of Anti-Diphtheritic Serum, and closure of the schools, prevented the spread of the disease, and the serum helped to procure the speedy recovery of the patients.

Enteric Fever.

This disease has been more prevalent than in the previous year, 22 cases being notified, and five removed to our Infectious Hospital; three cases proving fatal out of those treated at their homes. More cases would doubtless have been removed but for the fact that the disease occurred simultaneously with Scarlet Fever in our district, and for the purpose of the prevention of spread of disease, it was wiser to isolate the Scarlet Fever cases than the Enteric Fever, as we can only take in one disease at one time, as mentioned previously.

As a rule, an increased amount of Epidemic Diarrhœa in a district will coincide with a similar increase in the amount of Enteric, and this has proved the case in our locality during the past season, there being only 8 cases of Enteric reported in 1903; but, in 1902, there were 24, and, in 1901, 49. The increased amount of Diarrhœa over last year, I have commented upon.

One case of Continued Fever was notified, and removed to the Infectious Hospital.

As regards distribution in localities, Bedworth claims 18, out of the 22 cases; Foleshill, 3; and Keresley, 1. The Continued Fever case occurred at Foleshill. The case which arose at Keresley was alleged to have contracted the infection from an open sewer which adjoined the property where the boy lived, and, as a result, the whole length of sewer was piped and covered in, and the sewer ventilated by a shaft.

Puerperal Fever.

There was again no case reported of this disease, as in the previous year. There were 2 in 1902, 4 in 1901, and 4 in 1900.

Tuberculosis.

Twenty-three deaths were recorded from Phthisis and other Tubercular Diseases, giving a total Death rate of 1·2, as last year.

In my Report last year, I mentioned how pernicious a custom it was to stop up chimneys and to permanently fasten up windows, and last May we had posters (of which a copy is given below) printed and circulated in Bedworth, in consequence of a communication from the County Medical Officer of Health upon the subject, who, in March of last year, sent Miss Mackenzie, a County Council Health Visitor, to Bedworth, to carry on health visiting, on behalf of the County Council. Miss Mackenzie did a large amount of visiting, and informed Mr. Windass and myself of any defects she found in regard to premises or occupation of same; and, to follow up her work, Mr. Windass had the posters issued under your instructions.

The following is a copy of the poster:—

“ Foleshill Rural District Council.—Public Health Acts.—Complaints have recently been received that a large number of houses in the Parish of Bedworth are in an Insanitary Condition, owing to absence of proper Ventilation in the Bedrooms and Pantries, and defective Rain Water Spouting. Owners of Property and Occupiers throughout the district are earnestly requested to assist the Council by remedying these defects. (1) In Pantries where there is no Ventilation the same should be provided by means of an Air Brick substituted in lieu of an ordinary Brick. (2) Where Bedrooms are constructed without Fireplaces, a Ventilator should be fixed, and where Fireplaces are provided these should be kept unstopped. (3) The down Spouting generally should be repaired to prevent Houses becoming Damp.—J. W. WINDASS, Sanitary Inspector.”

Cancer.

Twelve Deaths occurred from malignant disease, five in Bedworth, three in Foleshill, two in Exhall, and one each in Keresley and Walsgrave. There were 16 deaths in 1903; 5 in 1902; and 18 in 1901.

Whooping Cough.

More deaths were registered from Whooping Cough than in 1903, when there were only two deaths, whilst there were 10 in 1902. 9 was the number in 1904, and, of these, five were in infants under 1 year of age.

Tramps.

2,698 vagrants were relieved during the year. This number is a decrease on 1903, when the number was 2,879, but it still shows an increase on previous years, as in 1901, when the number was 1,654.

Isolation Hospitals.

Foleshill: Twenty-five patients have been treated in the Hospital during the year—five Enteric Fever, nineteen Scarlet Fever, and one Continued Fever cases. Two deaths have occurred, both from Scarlet Fever. Miss Pilling, the present Matron, was appointed to her position in April, and has given me every satisfaction.

Exhall: The farm house, and wooden shed in the grounds, again served as our Small Pox Hospital, although we had but

few cases, as mentioned, six, and these all did well, the Warneford Hospital again supplying the nursing staff, who, as in the previous year, did excellent work. One patient, for persistently wandering out of the Hospital grounds, and his general refractory conduct, was ordered to be prosecuted by your Council, and the summons was taken out by Mr. Windass, the Magistrates inflicting a heavy fine, after conviction.

We have now terminated our tenancy of the above, and are arranging terms with the Corporation of Coventry for accommodation of our cases at Pinley (if any should occur) until the Joint Small Pox Hospital for the district shall have been completed.

Disinfection: This again formed a heavy work, and more than justified the existence of our Steam Disinfector, which has done excellent service, and was again taken to Exhall for the Small Pox Epidemic. The number of articles disinfected was 1,435, a decrease on last year of 500, owing to Small Pox not being so prevalent.

The plans for the new Infectious Hospital at Exhall have been submitted by Mr. Tickner, the Architect appointed to prepare them, and, after being carefully considered by your Council, have been submitted to the Local Government Board, for their consideration. An inquiry will be held by Dr. Reece, Local Government Board Inspector (who conducted the previous inquiry, some years ago), in January.

Schools.

Three Schools have been closed, by my order, during the year, viz., the Exhall, Willenhall, and Bedworth (Roman Catholic) Schools.

The former two were so closed on account of Diphtheria, which disease, in the case of the Exhall School, was very prevalent amongst the scholars, and I thought it likely that the contagion was conveyed from scholar to scholar during school time.

At Willenhall, Diphtheria broke out in a house close to the school premises, and, as the sanitary conditions of the surrounding garden ground were very bad, the said ground being used partly as a playground by the children attending the schools, it seemed wiser to prolong the holidays, which at the time were being kept, than to run the risk of other children contracting the disease, and carrying it to other houses.

I gave an order to the governors of the Roman Catholic Schools at Bedworth for closure, on account of the prevalence of Chicken Pox amongst the children attending the school, so many being absent, owing to this cause, that the school could not be carried on.

Sewerage.

The enquiry mentioned in my last Annual Report, which was about to be held at Foleshill in regard to the Scheme for that Parish, took place in January, and resulted in the Scheme

being passed, with but few small alterations ; and the Contractors who obtained the contract have made, during the year, very rapid progress with the work, which is now nearing completion. The Bedworth Scheme has not yet been finally approved by the Local Government Board, as it has been referred back for amendment ; it is hoped that very shortly it will be passed by the Board, and already the contract has been placed with the same firm who have been carrying on the work in Foleshill, and, although the delay in this most necessary work is most deplorable, we cannot plead guilty to the deferment being due to lack of willingness upon our part, as your Council has been most anxious to press the matter on as speedily as possible.

Mr. Windass has mentioned, in his summary, the improvement at Keresley, at the Heath district, which was badly needed.

The Water Supply.

In regard to this matter, the chief cause for comment is the most unsatisfactory condition of the Black Horse Lane and Hawkesbury Stop district, owing to absence of water for domestic use. This matter has been under notice at your Council meetings many times, and though, on more than one occasion, it has seemed probable that an arrangement would be completed between the property owners and the North Warwickshire Water Company, the matter has fallen through again and again.

It is most unfortunate that we are so powerless in the matter, and that more pressure cannot be brought to bear upon the Water Company to fulfil what was considered their implied obligation to supply the district with water.

Amongst other matters, my attention was called by a butcher to a beast killed by him, which shewed evidence of Tuberculosis. Mr. Windass and myself visited the slaughterhouse, and inspected the carcase, ordering all the infected part to be buried, which proceeding was carried out. In regard to Offensive Trades, these remain as last year, two in number, viz., at Bell Green and Rowley's Green, and have been carried out without nuisance.

Factory and Workshops Act.

The only underground Bakehouse which, in 1903, was found to exist, was altered in accordance with our requirements, and a Certificate was granted under the above Act. All the other Bakehouses in the district have been visited by Mr. Windass and myself, and we have not found very much to complain of ; in some cases, the whitewashing is not done frequently enough, i.e., once every 6 months.

One new factory has been added to our list, viz., Richmond's Ginger Beer Manufactory, in Holbrook Lane, and a new Laundry has been erected at Keresley. Very few defects have been discovered this year, and but few notices served.

ANNUAL - - REPORT

OF

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES,

FOR

Year ending 31st December, 1904.

TO

DR. JOHN ORTON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOLESHILL.

DEAR SIR.

I beg to hand you herewith my Annual Report on the Sanitary Work carried out, in my Department, during the Year ending 31st December, 1904.

I append a copy of the County Council's Form C, which gives, in detail, the number of inspections made.

FORM C.

Summary of Sanitary Work done in the Inspector of Nuisances Department during the Year 1904, in the Rural Sanitary District of Foleshill.

Dwelling Houses and Schools.	{	Foul Conditions	...	...	...	8
		Structural Defects	...	...	...	16
		Overcrowding	...	...	...	18
		Unfit for habitation	...	...	...	6
		Lodging Houses	...	...	...	16
		Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	54
		Cow Sheds	...	...	...	26
		Bakehouses	...	...	...	34
		Slaughter-Houses	...	...	...	13
		Canal Boats	...	...	...	88
		Ashpits and Privies	...	...	...	77
		Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	...	231
		Water-Closets	...	...	...	—
House Drainage.	{	Defective Traps	...	...	...	25
		No Disconnection	...	...	...	19
		Other Faults	...	...	...	71
		Water Supply	...	...	...	147
		Pigsties	...	...	...	5
		Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	16
		Offensive Trades	...	...	...	12
		Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	—
		Other Nuisances	...	...	...	137
TOTALS						1019

Seizures of unwholesome food	...	...	...	See written report.
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...	...	...	—
„ „ found Adulterated	...	...	...	—
„ of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	...	24
„ „ condemned as unfit for use	...	...	...	17

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Articles Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed	...	...	...	1467
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	...	96
Schools „ „ „ „	...	...	...	23
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	—
Convictions „ „ „ „ „	...	...	...	—
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things	...	...	...	1
Convictions „ „ „ „ „ (Fined £3 & £1 12s. costs)	...	...	...	1
Visits paid to houses where Infectious Disease Existed	...	...	...	131
Factory and Workshop	...	...	...	65

In all cases where patients are removed to the Isolation Hospital, the bedding is removed and steam-disinfected, and the rooms thoroughly cleansed.

1,435 Articles have been passed through the disinfecter during the year. I am pleased to say that, as in previous years, this machine continues to give entire satisfaction, and has proved of very great service to the district. In no case has any complaint been made as to the condition of the articles when returned to the owners, after being disinfected.

With the close of the year, the Council's tenancy of the house at Exhall, used as a Small-pox Hospital, expires, and, prior to giving up possession, the same has been thoroughly disinfected. The whole of the bedding and other articles of furniture, etc., were removed; the rooms were first of all fumigated by means of sulphur candles; then the whole of the walls and ceilings were sprayed with formalin, and the woodwork washed down with carbolic acid, and the windows left open. The walls and ceilings were then re-limewashed, two coats throughout.

I reported upon this matter to Dr. Bostock Hill, the County Medical Officer of Health, and have received a certificate from him, a copy of which is as follows:

“I have received from Mr. Windass a statement of the means he has taken for the disinfection of the house at Exhall, recently used by the Foleshill District Council as a Small-pox Hospital, and I am of opinion that what he has done has been sufficient to thoroughly disinfect it, and render it safe from any likelihood of the spread of Small-pox infection.”

Visits have been made to the houses where infectious diseases has been notified, and enquiries made, with a view to trace, if possible, the origin of the infection, and to prevent its spread.

In cases of Typhoid Fever, when from any reason it is not possible to remove the patients to Hospital, airtight pans are supplied, and the Contents of these are collected and burned, I am of opinion that this measure has a good deal to do with the great reduction in the number of the cases of this disease reported in the district during the past three years.

During the Summer holidays, the whole of the Schools in the District were thoroughly disinfected, as recommended by the County Medical Officer of Health.

Proceedings have been taken in the following instances:—

Defective Ashpits and Privies.—Adjourned for one month, for work to be done, which was complied with.

Overcrowding.—Order made for the abatement of the nuisance within fourteen days.

Dilapidated Premises.—This case was withdrawn upon payment of costs, the nuisance having been abated after the issue of the Summons.

Defective Catchpit.—This Summons was also withdrawn upon payment of Costs, the work being carried out after the issue of the Summons.

Proceedings were also taken against two owners of Property under the Disused Mines Act. The Circumstances in these “Cases” are somewhat exceptional. Early on the morning of July 26th, the inhabitants of the Collycroft district of Bedworth were surprised to find the ground had subsided, leaving an opening which measured 48 yards deep and 30ft. 6in. X 18ft. 5in. at the top.

There was, close to this hole, a disused shaft, domed over with brickwork. The boundry line between two different properties came between the hole in the ground and the disused shaft, and belonged to two different owners, who were evidently on not very friendly terms. I noticed that the brickwork on the domed shaft was also giving way. These owners disputed as to who was responsible for this condition of things; consequently, proceedings were instituted, I being advised by a mining expert that probably the domed shaft had given way, so far down, and allowed the earth, etc, to run in. It was necessary to engage men to watch this hole for sometime, to prevent any accident, the occurrence causing considerable alarm in the district, and attracted a quantity of sightseers.

After a hearing lasting about five hours, the Magistrates were not convinced that the case for the Council had been made out; they therefore made no order, and dismissed the case against one of the defendents, the other being withdrawn. The County Council were then informed of the decision, and their Surveyor decided to erect iron fencing on the footpath to protect the hole from the road. This hole is now gradually filling itself up from the soil around.

There is little doubt that, in this part of District, there are several old disused shafts which, in all probability, are only just protected by woodwork on the top, and are a constant source of danger to the inhabitants of Bedworth, and it is difficult to obtain reliable information as to the exact position of these. In one instance, the Council have themselves been at the expense of filling up one of these disused shafts, the top of which had given way, situate on the nightsoil tip at coalpit Fields, Bedworth, of which the Council were tenants.

Special attention has again been given to the Water Supply of the District during the year, and house to house inspections have been made in Little Bayton, Black Horse Lane, Lentons Lane, Sowe Common, Coalpit Fields, Bedworth, and Bedworth Hill, all of which districts require improved supplies. Especially is this the case in Little Bayton, Black Horse Lane, and Hawkesbury Stop, where the inhabitants have considerable difficulty in obtaining water for any purpose, and I hope arrange-

ments will soon be completed so that the North Warwickshire Water Company may be induced to take their mains into these districts. In my two last Annual Reports, I have had to complain of the absence of a Water Supply to these houses. During the middle of the Summer, a stand pipe was fixed at the nearest point of the Company's mains, to supply Black Horse Lane, a charge of a half penny per bucket being made.

24 Samples of Water were submitted to the County Analyst during the year, 17 of which were condemned as absolutely unfit for use for drinking purposes.

Samples of Water from the public supplies were analysed, as under:—

On May 31st, I submitted a sample from the North Warwickshire mains, Dr. Bostock Hill's Report being as follows:—“The sample received was of very good quality, free from past pollution and from any important quantity of fresh organic matter, and, in my opinion, it is excellently suited for the supply of a community.”

On June 1st, I sent a sample of the Bedworth Town Water, the following being the Report:—“The sample was very bad in appearance, being yellow in colour, and turbid. There is no sign of past pollution, and, in fact, it would appear that the chief objection to its use at the present time is its colour and turbidity, for I cannot conceive that people would be willing to drink it in the condition it was when I received it.”

In connection with this latter sample, I am pleased to say the Committee are now taking steps to provide a suitable filter, so that I hope, shortly, the objection as to the colour of the water will be removed.

Another sample of water supplied by the North Warwickshire Water Company was sent on October 17th, from their bore hole at Watery Lane, Keresley, the Report being as follows:—“The results show it to be of very good quality, not very hard, free from past sewage pollution, and to contain but very little fresh organic matter, and I am of opinion that it is a good water for use for the supply of a community.”

The other samples, which were submitted and approved, were:—

2 samples, Willenhall.

1 sample, Penny Park, Foleshill.

1 sample, Noah's Ark Farm, Exhall.

1 sample, Exhall Schools.

With regard to the water at Exhall Schools, Dr. Bostock Hill was of opinion that it was not a safe water for use for drinking purposes; consequently, the well was thoroughly cleaned out, and the top made good.

Considerable improvements have been carried out, as

regards Sewerage Work in the Parish of Keresley. A length of 450 yards of new sewer has been laid, to replace an old defective one, and Notices have been served upon the owners of property adjoining, to properly connect up to same, provide ventilating pipes, &c. In another portion of this Parish, also, a length of about 40 yards of open sewer has been piped in, and a ventilating pipe provided.

The Scavenging of the District has been satisfactorily carried out during the twelve months. In Bedworth and Foleshill, this is done by contract, and, I am pleased to say, very few complaints have been received.

The old-fashioned form of Ashpit and Privy is rapidly giving place to a more satisfactory form of Dry Earth Closet. There are, at the present time, in Foleshill Parish alone, no less than 424 of these Dry Earth Closets. When the Sewerage Scheme is completed, Water Closets will be substituted for a number of these.

In Bedworth Parish, an office is now provided, at which I attend each Tuesday and Saturday morning, for an hour each day. There is also provided a Letter Box, in which complaints may be placed. I regret to say, however, very little use is made of this convenience, the people appearing to be afraid or too idle to be at the trouble to send their complaints; the feeling being, I am informed, that the landlords might get to know, and so cause unpleasantness. This I consider a great mistake, as every complaint received is treated as strictly confidential.

No seizure has been made of any Unwholesome Food during the year. In one or two instances, I have had to complain of the quality of the articles exposed for sale. These have, however, in each case, upon complaint being made, been voluntarily removed and destroyed.

The Slaughterhouses in the District have been visited during the year, and are generally found in a satisfactory condition.

No samples have been taken by me during the year under the Food and Drugs Act, this work now being carried out largely by the Inspector of Weights and Measures for the County.

The Caravans visiting the District during the year have also been inspected, 44 of these dwellings being examined. In no case has it been necessary to take proceedings. The question of the provision of proper Sanitary Conveniences for these people has again been brought before the Council, and steps are now being taken to remedy the present state of affairs.

The question of the provision of Bye Laws regulating the keeping of pigs in the district has also been brought forward, and I hope the Council will soon see their way to adopt such bye laws, which are urgently required.

As Inspector under the Canal Boats Act, I have already presented my Report. These boats, speaking generally, are in a good and cleanly condition. 88 boats were inspected during the year, as compared with 58 in 1903. During the recent severe weather, when 19 boats were at one time tied up at the junction of the Oxford and Coventry Canals at Hawkesbury Stop, the absence of a proper water supply for drinking purposes caused considerable inconvenience, and I hope, before this time next year, some more adequate provision for these people will be made.

The Bakehouses in the district have been inspected by me and your Medical Officer of Health, and, with one exception, were found in fair condition.

The Cowsheds, Dairies, and Milkshops have also been visited. I propose, during the next 12 months, to revise the register of these premises, and grant fresh Certificates to suitable places.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. W. WINDASS,

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Table I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1904 and Previous Years.
Name of District, FOLESHILL RURAL.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.				TOTAL DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT		Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.		Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.		NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.	
		Number	Rate.*	Under 1 Yr. of Age	Rate per 1,000 Births Registered.	Number	Rate.*	Public Institutions in the District	Public Institutions in the District.	Public Institutions beyond the District.	Number	Rate.*			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
1894.	19968	672	33·6	108	160·7	366	18·3	12	No Information.						
1895.	19968	708	35·4	105	148·3	384	19·2	29							
1896.	19968	747	37·4	98	131·1	331	16·5	12							
1897.	22880	787	34·3	116	147·3	405	17·7	10							
1898.	23955	903	37·6	146	161·6	416	17·3	26							
1899.	24655	897	36·3	136	151·6	431	17·4	28							
1900.	16791	583	34·7	87	149·2	299	17·8	17							
1901.	17002	621	36·5	70	112·7	291	17·1	17							
1902.	17447	646	37·0	103	159·4	283	16·2	11							
1903.	17838	662	37·1	89	134·4	255	14·2	9							
Averages for years 1894-1903.		20047·2	722·6	105·8	145·63	346·1	17·17	17·1	·5			—	—		
1904.	18216	638	35·0	101	158·3	316	17·3	20	0	3	319	17·5			

*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Institutions outside the District receiving Sick and Infirm persons from the District:—Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital; Queen's Hospital, Birmingham.
Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water):—18,837.
Total population at all ages:—17,002.
Number of inhabited houses:—3,710.
Average number of persons per house:—4·5.
Is the Union Workhouse within the District?—Yes.

Table II. — Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1904 and previous years.

Name of District, FOLESHILL RURAL.

Names of Localities.	1. Ansty.				2. Bedworth.				3. Binley.				4. Exhall.				5. Foleshill.				6. Keresley.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.
YEAR.	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d
1894	127	3	6	—	5476	209	106	37	180	5	3	—	1004	35	16	6	8673	309	167	53	491	14	10	1
1895	127	4	2	—	5476	218	113	37	180	5	3	—	1004	35	10	2	8673	312	192	51	491	20	7	—
1896	127	4	2	—	5476	225	96	28	180	4	1	—	1004	41	22	8	8673	338	160	52	491	20	5	1
1897	127	7	5	1	6000	239	117	46	180	6	4	1	1004	47	22	5	11000	347	179	45	491	16	8	3
1898	127	6	1	1	6250	255	105	42	180	5	2	—	1020	34	14	3	11800	435	224	82	500	22	7	2
1899	127	5	1	—	6750	292	133	48	180	3	2	1	1020	43	17	5	11800	394	203	65	500	18	11	4
1900	127	1	3	1	6850	249	136	50	180	8	3	—	1020	37	20	5	5832	196	89	16	500	17	11	4
1901	155	4	2	—	7169	272	120	28	214	10	3	—	1089	37	19	8	5514	214	98	22	536	16	10	2
1902	155	5	3	1	7469	278	116	47	214	7	3	1	1114	53	22	12	5614	210	96	34	536	17	7	—
1903	155	1	1	—	7617	288	103	45	214	8	1	1	1114	45	13	4	5843	217	85	24	536	19	9	4
Averages of Years 1894 to 1903.	135·4	4·0	2·6	·4	6453·3	252·5	114·5	40·8	190·2	6·1	2·5	·4	1039·3	40·7	17·5	5·8	8342·2	297·2	149·3	44·4	507·2	17·9	8·5	2·1
1904	155	1	1	0	7762	288	132	50	214	3	4	0	1118	51	31	9	6063	217	104	31	540	17	11	3

TABLE II.—Name of District, FOLESHILL RURAL (Continued).

Names of Localities.	7. Shilton.				8. Stoke.				9. Walsgrave-on-Sowe.				10. Willenhall.				11. Withybroke				12. Wyken.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 year.				
YEAR.																								
	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d	a	b	c	d				
1894	350	10	4	1	1739	37	27	6	1456	41	19	3	105	5	1	1	234	3	5	—	133	1	2	—
1895	350	4	7	1	1739	46	20	4	1456	53	20	6	105	2	1	—	234	5	8	3	133	4	1	1
1896	350	9	3	—	1739	49	21	3	1456	38	16	5	105	6	2	1	234	11	2	—	133	2	1	—
1897	350	6	1	—	1800	66	32	7	1456	41	32	8	105	2	—	—	234	9	4	—	133	1	1	—
1898	350	8	6	1	1800	68	28	8	1456	58	24	7	105	4	—	—	234	5	—	—	133	3	5	—
1899	350	8	2	—	2000	68	39	6	1460	56	20	7	105	3	1	—	234	7	1	—	133	—	1	—
1900	360	12	3	2	45	—	—	—	1460	53	26	9	105	2	2	—	234	6	6	—	132	2	—	—
1901	387	9	3	—	34	—	1	—	1462	49	27	8	111	2	2	1	207	7	3	1	124	1	3	—
1902	387	5	8	1	34	—	—	—	1482	59	23	7	111	4	—	—	207	5	4	—	124	3	1	—
1903	387	14	5	1	34	—	—	—	1513	55	24	10	111	4	—	—	207	6	1	—	124	5	4	—
Averages of Years 1894 to 1903.	362.1	8.5	4.2	.7	1096.4	33.4	16.8	3.4	1465.7	50.3	23.1	7.0	106.8	3.4	.9	.3	225.9	6.4	3.4	.4	130.3	2.2	1.9	—
1904	387	9	5	2	34	1	3	0	1518	47	22	6	111	0	3	0	207		2	0	124	2	1	0

Table III.—Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1904.
Name of District, FOLESHILL RURAL.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.												
	At all Ages.	Un-der 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 & up-wds.	ANSTY.	BEDWORTH.	BINLEY.	EXHALL.	FOLESHILL H.	KERESLEY.	SHILTON.	STOKE.	WALSGRAVE-ON-SOME.	WILLENHALL.	WITHYBROOK.	'WYKEN.	
Small-pox	6	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	4	—	2	29	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	1
Diphtheria	66	—	18	38	5	4	1	—	21	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Membranous croup	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	25	2	3	1	6	9	4	2	12	—	1	7	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	21	1	7	12	1	—	—	—	5	—	1	14	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Enteric fever	22	—	4	5	7	6	—	—	18	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued fever...	4	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox	75	12	48	15	—	—	—	—	54	—	—	12	8	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals	223	15	84	74	20	25	5	2	118	—	13	69	9	1	—	8	2	—	—	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.							No. OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.												
	At all Ages.	Un-der 1.	1 to 5	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65.	65 & up-wds.	ANSTY.	BEDWORTH.	BINLEY.	EXHALL.	FOLESHILL H.	KERESLEY.	SHILTON.	STOKE.	WALSGRAVE-ON-SOME.	WILLENHALL.	WITHYBROOK.	'WYKEN.	
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Membranous croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	14	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	3	15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

Table IV.—Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1904.
Name of District, FOLESHILL RURAL.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.						DEATHS AT ALL AGES OF "RESIDENTS" BELONGING TO LOCALITIES, WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT.										Total Deaths whether of Residents or non- "Residents" in Public Institutions in the District.				
	All ages. 1 yr.	Un- der 1 yr.	1 and un- der 5.	5 and un- der 15.	15 & un- der 25.	25 & un- der 65.	65 & up- wards.	ANSTY.	BEDWORTH.	BINLEY.	EXHALL.	FOLESHILL.	KERESLEY.	SHILTON.	STOKE.	WALSGRAVE.		WILLENHALL.	WITHYBROOK	WYKEN.	
Measles ...	1											1									2
Scarlet fever ...	2											2									
Whooping-cough ...	9	5	3		1				2		1	2		2							
Diphtheria and membranous croup	8		5						6		1	1									
Fever { Enteric	3				1				1			1									
Other continued	1											1									
Epidemic influenza	2											1									
Diarrhoea	20	14	3						9		6	4					1				
Enteritis	12	5	5						4		1	6				1					
Erysipelas	1	1																			
Phthisis, (Pulmonary Tubercu- culosis)	16				1							11	1								3
Other tubercular diseases ...	7	4	1	2		7	4		1	1	1	3	1	1							
Cancer, malignant disease...	12					4	8		2		2	3									
Bronchitis	28	3	5			8	12		5	1	1	7	1								1
Pneumonia	29	11	5	2		8	3		11		4	10	1	1	1						2
Other diseases of Respira- tory organs ...	1		1																		
Alcoholism																					
Cirrhosis of liver }	5					3	2		1				1								
Premature birth	13	13										4									
Heart diseases ...	16	2				6	6	1	4			6	1						1		1
Accidents	13		3	2		3	2		3		2	6									
Senile Decay	29					1	28		14		4	8	1								
All other causes	91	37	2	9		17	26		46	1	5	28	4	1	1	3	1	1	1		5
All causes ...	319	95	38	21	8	65	92	1	132	4	31	104	11	5	3	22	3	2	1		20

Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for 1904,
 FOR THE
RURAL DISTRICT OF FOLESHILL.
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND
HOMework.

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises.		Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories	...		1	0
(Including Factory Laundries.)				
Workshops	...		1	
(Including Workshop Laundries.)				
Workplaces	...			
Homeworkers' Premises	...			
Total	...	65	2	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Number of Prosecutions.
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	...			
Want of Ventilation	...			
Overcrowding	...			
Want of drainage of floors	...	3	3	
Other nuisances	...			
Sanitary accommodations	...			
{ insufficient				
{ unsuitable or defective				
{ not separate for sexes				
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house (S. 101)	...			
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100)	...			
Failure as regards lists of outworkers (S. 107)	...	1	1	
Giving out work to				
be done in prem-				
ises which are				
{ unwholesome (S. 108)..				
{ infectnd (S. 110)				
Allowing wearing apparel to be made in	...			
premises infected by scarlet fever or				
smallpox (S. 109)	...			
Total	...	4	4	—

3.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.		Number.	
Matters notified to H.M. Inspectors of Factories :—			
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (S. 133) ...		—	
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspectors as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory Act (S. 5)			
		Notified by H.M. Inspector ...	1
		Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspectors ...	
Other ...			
Underground Bakehouses (S. 101) :—			
In use during 1903 ...		1	
Certificates granted { in 1903 ...			
		{ in 1904 ...	
In use at the end of 1904 ...		1	
		Number of	
		Lists.	Out-workers.
Homework :—			
<i>Lists of Outworkers</i> (S. 107) :—			
Lists received ...		3	8
Addresses of outworkers { forwarded to other Authorities ...		0	
		{ received from other Authorities ...	
		8	
		Wearing Apparel	Other.
<i>Homework in unwholesome or infected premises:</i> —			
Notices prohibiting homework in unwholesome premises (S. 108) ...		—	—
Cases of infectious disease notified in homeworkers' premises ...		—	—
Orders prohibiting homework in infected premises (S. 110) ...		—	—

New Buildings and Alterations.

I am again indebted to Mr. Newey, Surveyor to your Council, for the following summary of the above, in the various Parishes :—

FOLESHILL RURAL DISTRICT.

The following number of Houses were completed, and certified by me as fit for occupation, during the year 1904 :—

BEDWORTH :

34 houses.

FOLESHILL :

39 houses.

EXHALL :

2 houses.

KERESLEY :

5 houses.

WALSGRAVE-ON-SOWE :

1 house.

Many of these Houses were completed at the beginning part of the year. The Building Trade for the past 6 months has been very slack in the district.

A. E. NEWEY,

SURVEYOR.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JOHN ORTON,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.